

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

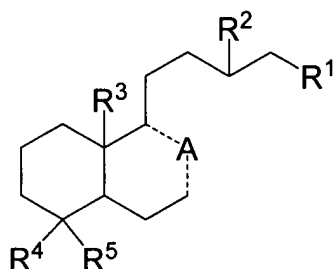
The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) [[An]] A whitening external preparation composition for skin, comprising:

(A) one, or two or more compounds represented by formula (1) below:



in formula (1), R^1 represents $-CH_2OH$ or $COOR^6$, R^6 represents hydrogen, a lower alkyl group having the number of carbon atoms of 1 to 3, or a cation capable of forming a salt with COO^- , each of R^2 to R^5 independently represents a hydrogen atom or methyl group, and $\cdots A \cdots$ represents $=C(CH_3)-$, $-C(CH_3)=$, $-C(=CH_2)-$, $-CH(CH_3)-$ or $-C(OH)(CH_3)-$; and

(B) ~~one, or two or more medicinal ingredients selected from the group consisting of~~
~~*Glycyrrhiza glabra* extract or lily extract, *Coix lachryma-jobi* extract, blackcurrant fruit extract,~~
~~*Inula britannica* extract, cranberry fruit extract, *Mucuna birdwoodiana* extract, cactus extract,~~
~~*Momordica grosvenorii* extract, and astaxanthin and its derivatives.~~

Claims 17-18. (Canceled)

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) The whitening external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said compound represented by formula (1) is a compound, or a compound prepared from said compound extracted from one, or two or more plants selected from *Cistus ladaniferus* L., *Cistus creticus* L., *Cistus monspeliensis* L. and *Cistus salvifolius*.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The whitening external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 16, formed from one, or two or more extracts, containing said compound represented by formula (1), selected from *Cistus ladaniferus* L., *Cistus creticus* L., *Cistus monspeliensis* L. and *Cistus salvifolius*.

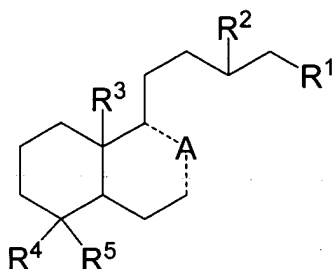
Claims 21-24 (Canceled)

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) A process for skin whitening, comprising applying an external preparation composition as set forth in claim 16 to the skin.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) A process for skin anti-aging, comprising applying an external preparation ~~compositions~~ composition as set forth in claim 16 to the skin.

Claim 27. (New) An anti-aging external preparation composition for skin, comprising:

(A) one, or two or more compounds represented by formula (1) below:



in formula (1), R^1 represents $-CH_2OH$ or $COOR^6$, R^6 represents hydrogen, a lower alkyl group having the number of carbon atoms of 1 to 3, or a cation capable of forming a salt with COO^- ,

each of R^2 to R^5 independently represents a hydrogen atom or methyl group, and $\cdots A \cdots$ represents $=C(CH_3)-$, $-C(CH_3)=$, $-C(=CH_2)-$, $-CH(CH_3)-$ or $-C(OH)(CH_3)-$; and

(B) cactus extract or Panax ginseng extract.

Claim 28. (New) The anti-aging external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said compound represented by formula (1) is a compound, or a compound prepared from said compound extracted from one, or two or more plants selected from *Cistus ladaniferus* L., *Cistus creticus* L., *Cistus monspeliensis* L. and *Cistus salvifolius*.

Claim 29. (New) The anti-aging external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 27, formed from one, or two or more extracts, containing said compound represented by formula (1), selected from *Cistus ladaniferus* L., *Cistus creticus* L., *Cistus monspeliensis* L. and *Cistus salvifolius*.

Claim 30. (New) The whitening external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said *Glycyrrhiza glabra* extract or lily extract is *Glycyrrhiza glabra* extract.

Claim 31. (New) The whitening external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said *Glycyrrhiza glabra* extract or lily extract is lily extract.

Claim 32. (New) The whitening external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the amount of (A) ingredient is from 0.00001 to 5% by mass; and the amount of (B) ingredient is from 0.00001 to 10% by mass.

Claim 33. (New) The anti-aging external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said cactus extract or Panax ginseng extract is cactus extract.

Claim 34. (New) The anti-aging external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said cactus extract or Panax ginseng extract is Panax ginseng extract.

Claim 35. (New) The anti-aging external preparation composition for skin as claimed in Claim 27, wherein the amount of (A) ingredient is from 0.00001 to 5% by mass; and the amount of (B) ingredient as cactus extract is from 0.00001 to 10% by mass or the amount of (B) ingredient as Panax ginseng extract is from 0.00001 to 5% by mass.